

(6) The preservation of the New Market Heights Battlefield in the vicinity of the City of Richmond is an important aspect of American history that can be interpreted to the public. The Battle of New Market Heights represents a premier landmark in black military history as 14 black Union soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor in recognition of their valor during the battle. According to National Park Service historians, the sacrifices of the United States Colored Troops in this battle helped to ensure the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution to abolish slavery.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this title—

(1) to revise the boundaries for the Richmond National Battlefield Park based on the findings of the Civil War Sites Advisory Committee and the National Park Service; and

(2) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to work in cooperation with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the City of Richmond, other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth, other public entities, and the private sector in the management, protection, and interpretation of the resources associated with the Civil War and the Civil War battles in and around the City of Richmond, Virginia.

#### **SEC. 503. RICHMOND NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK; BOUNDARIES.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.**—For the purpose of protecting, managing, and interpreting the resources associated with the Civil War battles in and around the City of Richmond, Virginia, there is established the Richmond National Battlefield Park consisting of approximately 7,307 acres of land, as generally depicted on the map entitled "Richmond National Battlefield Park Boundary Revision", numbered 367N.E.F.A.80026A, and dated September 2000. The map shall be on file in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(b) **BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.**—The Secretary may make minor adjustments in the boundaries of the battlefield park consistent with section 7(c) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–9(c)).

#### **SEC. 504. LAND ACQUISITION.**

(a) **ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may acquire lands, waters, and interests in lands within the boundaries of the battlefield park from willing landowners by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange. In acquiring lands and interests in lands under this title, the Secretary shall acquire the minimum interest necessary to achieve the purposes for which the battlefield is established.

(2) **SPECIAL RULE FOR PRIVATE LANDS.**—Privately owned lands or interests in lands may be acquired under this title only with the consent of the owner.

(b) **EASEMENTS.**—

(1) **OUTSIDE BOUNDARIES.**—The Secretary may acquire an easement on property outside the boundaries of the battlefield park and around the City of Richmond, with the consent of the owner, if the Secretary determines that the easement is necessary to protect core Civil War resources as identified by the Civil War Sites Advisory Committee. Upon acquisition of the easement, the Secretary shall revise the boundaries of the battlefield park to include the property subject to the easement.

(2) **INSIDE BOUNDARIES.**—To the extent practicable, and if preferred by a willing landowner, the Secretary shall use permanent conservation easements to acquire interests in land in lieu of acquiring land in fee simple and thereby removing land from non-Federal ownership.

(c) **VISITOR CENTER.**—The Secretary may acquire the Tredegar Iron Works buildings and associated land in the City of Richmond for use as a visitor center for the battlefield park.

#### **SEC. 505. PARK ADMINISTRATION.**

(a) **APPLICABLE LAWS.**—The Secretary, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall administer the battlefield park in accordance with this title and laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Act of August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.) and the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

(b) **NEW MARKET HEIGHTS BATTLEFIELD.**—The Secretary shall provide for the establishment of a monument or memorial suitable to honor the 14 Medal of Honor recipients from the United States Colored Troops who fought in the Battle of New Market Heights. The Secretary shall include the Battle of New Market Heights and the role of black Union soldiers in the battle in historical interpretations provided to the public at the battlefield park.

(c) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with the Commonwealth of Virginia, its political subdivisions (including the City of Richmond), private property owners, and other members of the private sector to develop mechanisms to protect and interpret the historical resources within the battlefield park in a manner that would allow for continued private ownership and use where compatible with the purposes for which the battlefield is established.

(d) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary may provide technical assistance to the Commonwealth of Virginia, its political subdivisions, nonprofit entities, and private property owners for the development of comprehensive plans, land use guidelines, special studies, and other activities that are consistent with the identification, protection, interpretation, and commemoration of historically significant Civil War resources located inside and outside of the boundaries of the battlefield park. The technical assistance does not authorize the Secretary to own or manage any of the resources outside the battlefield park boundaries.

#### **SEC. 506. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this title.

#### **SEC. 507. REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED LAW.**

The Act of March 2, 1936 (chapter 113; 16 U.S.C. 423j–423l) is repealed.

#### **TITLE VI—SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA INTERTIE SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION; NAVAJO ELECTRIFICATION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

##### **SEC. 601. SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA INTERTIE AUTHORIZATION LIMIT.**

Upon the completion and submission to the United States Congress by the Forest Service of the ongoing High Voltage Direct Current viability analysis pursuant to United States Forest Service Collection Agreement #00CO–111005–105 or no later than February 1, 2001, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy such sums as may be necessary to assist in the construction of the Southeastern Alaska Intertie system as generally identified in Report #97–01 of the Southeast Conference. Such sums shall equal 80 percent of the cost of the system and may not exceed \$384,000,000. Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit or waive any otherwise applicable State or Federal law.

##### **SEC. 602. NAVAJO ELECTRIFICATION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Energy shall establish a 5-year program to assist the Navajo Nation to meet its electricity needs. The purpose of the program shall be to provide electric power to the estimated 18,000 occupied structures on the Navajo Nation that lack electric power. The goal of the program shall be to ensure that every household on the Navajo Nation that requests it has access to a reliable and affordable source of electricity by the year 2006.

(b) **SCOPE.**—In order to meet the goal in subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall provide grants to the Navajo Nation to—

(1) extend electric transmission and distribution lines to new or existing structures that are not served by electric power and do not have adequate electric power service;

(2) purchase and install distributed power generating facilities, including small gas turbines, fuel cells, solar photovoltaic systems, solar thermal systems, geothermal systems, wind power systems, or biomass-fueled systems;

(3) purchase and install other equipment associated with the generation, transmission, distribution, and storage of electric power;

(4) provide training in the installation, operation, or maintenance of the lines, facilities, or equipment in paragraphs (1) through (3); or

(5) support other activities that the Secretary of Energy determines are necessary to meet the goal of the program.

(c) **TECHNICAL SUPPORT.**—At the request of the Navajo Nation, the Secretary of Energy may provide technical support through Department of Energy laboratories and facilities to the Navajo Nation to assist in achieving the goal of this program.

(d) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—Not later than February 1, 2002 and for each of the five succeeding years, the Secretary of Energy shall submit a report to Congress on the status of the programs and the progress towards meeting its goal under subsection (a).

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy to carry out this section \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2002 through 2006.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate agree to the amendment of the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### **CLOSING THE SESSION**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, both the Senator from Wyoming and I are gratified that the Senator from Oklahoma is presiding today. We certainly look forward to closing this session.

From the minority's perspective, we are ready to vote as soon as possible. We know how Senator STEVENS has worked very hard to wrap up these final three appropriations bills. We hope it can be done expeditiously.

In recognition of the fact that once we agree on what the final plan is going to be, it usually takes a day or so to understand, that people need that time to read the bill and to make sure that final legislation is what we want, I hope tomorrow can be a full, complete day. We look forward to moving on a day-by-day basis with 24-hour continuing resolutions. The only way we are going to get out of here is to continue working. I hope if we don't make the Friday deadline, as the Senator from Wyoming indicated, which I hope we can do, that we will continue working through the weekend until we finish with the election on the national level and the State level only 2 weeks from now.

What we are doing here doesn't seem to be getting a lot of attention anyway, with all the problems around the

world, the Presidential election, Middle East problems. It seems to me it would be to everyone's benefit to try to resolve some of the outstanding issues which are important at this stage only to Members who serve in Congress. I hope that is wrong, but it appears that is the case.

I repeat, for the third time today, the minority is willing and able to do whatever is possible to move these bills along to finality.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming is recognized.

#### COMPLETING THE WORK OF THE 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I, too, am anxious that we complete the work we have before us. We still have three important appropriations bills to put together. I hope we can deal with respect to the issues and move away from some of what has happened, where we have sought, in some cases, to make an issue more than to reach a solution.

In fairness to the Congress and to our associates, since Labor Day there has been a substantial amount of progress made. I will review some of it to assure you that we have been doing some very helpful and useful work.

For example, repeal of the telephone excise tax: This was a tax that was implemented during the Spanish-American War on telephones. I suspect it had exhausted itself by this time and finally was repealed.

The Safe Drug Reimportation Act, which, of course, is a part of a solution to pharmaceutical costs: In the case of Canada, for example, pharmaceuticals that are exported there are under price controls by the Government and therefore are less expensive than they are in the United States. This authorizes those drugs to be reimported and hopefully to be resold at a price less than what we have had in the United States. One of the issues is to ensure that those drugs are indeed bona fide and are indeed safe and will be the kinds of drugs that we would receive absent the reimportation.

Permanent normal trade relations with China: An interesting issue, one that is sometimes thought to be a big gift for China. The fact is, in terms of our trade with China, the restrictions they have had against our goods have been much greater than the restrictions we have had against theirs; in agriculture, for example, a 40-percent tariff on beef.

If this is implemented, we will have a reduction in the barriers for us to be shipping goods to China. We have had a good deal of discussion in some campaigns about trade and whether or not the effects of trade are valuable to the United States. Of course, about 40 percent of agricultural products are sold overseas. Obviously, those markets are very important to us, but we need to

ensure that it is done as fairly as can be and that we are treated well in this exchange. That, of course, is the reason for organizations such as WTO.

Legislation on H-1B visas was passed which allows for more high-tech people to enter this country to take jobs we are not able to fill. I think one of the very important things that goes with that is it emphasizes and funds some additional training for students in this country so that rather than hiring foreign people to fill these jobs, we will also be training people here to be hired for those jobs. I think that is terribly important.

We have done some things with the Children's Health Act; for instance, the Cancer Prevention Treatment Act, which is one bill that is particularly important to me. My wife is very involved in the Race For A Cure and doing things as to breast cancer.

The Rural Schools and Communities Health Determination Act is one that I think is very important. The real issue we have had on education in this Chamber has not been the amount of money the Federal Government spends but, rather, how it can be spent, and one of the obstacles has been that this administration has insisted that as the Federal money goes out, there are certain things tied to it that are required to be done. We on this side of the aisle have said, yes, we want to strengthen education, but we believe local educators, school boards, and State school departments should have the authority to make those kinds of decisions. Certainly, the needs in Wyoming are different from those in New York. So we certainly needed to do that, and we have indeed done that.

The Violence Against Women Act was an act we passed again so that it stays in effect, which is one of the most important aspects. We have done some things with the Water Resource Development Act, which is still in play but has been passed through this Congress. It has water development projects in it, the emphasis being on the Everglades. A good deal of authorization money is made available to the Everglades, which is one of our very important ecological activities.

NASA authorization and DOD authorization are continued, and we have done the Interior appropriations, which took into account some of the discussion involved with the CARA Act, but it didn't make it in defined spending—not with 15 years of mandatory spending, but it did provide additional funds for activities such as stateside parks and maintenance of Federal parks.

It was kind of disappointing to me when we received the budget from the administration. I happen to be chairman of the Parks Subcommittee. Despite our acknowledgment of the need for infrastructure for parks, the budget provided more money for acquisition of new parks than for the maintenance of

the parks we have now. So we need to make sure we deal with those issues.

We have had energy and water and Treasury-Postal.

My point is that we have done a great deal this year. Of course, there are always many more things to do. The issues that probably have dominated more time than anything are the issues that most people are concerned about, such as education. We talked about education for 5 weeks here this year. I have already indicated the different view. I was disappointed, frankly, in the way that progressed. We could have resolved that long ago. But the difference in view was on who has control of the spending, and it really was held up more as an issue for this election. That is too bad. I think we have a substantial amount of that taking place.

Social Security: It is interesting that Social Security now becomes one of the prime issues in the election—and indeed it should be. It is something that is extremely important to most everyone, of course. The proposal out there would ensure that those receiving benefits now would continue to receive them and those close to receiving benefits would have no change. But when you take a long look at Social Security, it is clear that unless something is done over time, then young people, such as these pages, who will pay taxes in their first paycheck, probably will not be able to line up for benefits. A change must be made.

It is interesting that that is one of the Presidential issues talked about the most. But during the past 8 years, really nothing has been done about it by this administration. That is interesting. The options, of course, are to do nothing or to try to make changes. One of the changes could be to increase taxes. That is not a very popular proposal. Reducing benefits is equally unpopular.

We can take a portion of those dollars and let them be in the account of people for themselves, let them invest it in the private sector and raise the return from about 2 percent to whatever it would be in the market, which would be substantially more than 2 percent. It is too bad that hasn't been changed. We have talked about keeping all the money there, and we are determined to do that. I think we have had five or six votes on a lockbox. All of that has been turned down because it seemed to be more important at that point to make an issue rather than find a solution.

We have had a good deal of discussion over a Patients' Bill of Rights, of course. We have had it before a conference committee. The Presiding Officer is a leader in that, and he has worked very hard to find a solution. But really, it turns on a relatively singular issue, and that is, where do you go with your appeal? Some would like